

The future Highway 87

The northern section of Highway 87 is being rebuilt into a six-lane freeway from Julian Street to Highway 101, a distance of 3.1 miles. Four lanes will open in December 2003 with carpool lanes being added by 2005. The project is expected to cost \$225 million.

TWO NEW INTERCHANGES

Access to the new section of highway will be limited to two urban-style interchanges at Taylor Street and Skyport Drive.

TAYLOR STREET INTERCHANGE

This is the site of San Jose's earliest settlement, so a mission style architecture was selected to pay tribute to its historic significance. A 180-foot long traffic signal truss, historic twin luminaires along the sidewalks and formed archways along the bridge will serve as the gateway into the Civic Center. The street overpass will open Wednesday.

SKYPORT DRIVE INTERCHANGE

Now partially open, it will serve as the main entry point into Mineta San Jose International Airport.



Future Taylor Street interchange



Future Skyport Drive interchange

HISTORY OF HIGHWAY 87

John Kennedy was president, the A's were in Kansas City, diamond lanes didn't exist and Chubby Checker and the twist were the rage when transportation officials agreed to convert Guadalupe Parkway into a freeway. The year was 1962, and 35 years later construction has finally begun.

- 1963:** State adopts plan designating the Guadalupe Parkway as a future freeway.
- 1970:** State budget woes cause Caltrans to stop freeway planning.
- 1972:** The Hwy. 87-Interstate 280 interchange is built.
- 1976:** A temporary four-lane freeway is built from I-280 north to Julian Street.
- 1988:** Freeway is extended from Julian north to Taylor Street.
- 1992:** Rising rate of accidents leads to installation of median barrier.
- 1992:** New ramp from northbound Guadalupe Parkway to First Street opens.
- 1993:** Highway 87 south of I-280 opens.
- 1997:** Construction on current project begins.

OTHER HIGHWAY 87 WORK

- 1.** Adding carpool lanes from Highway 85 to I-280. Work to be done by 2005.
- 2.** Completing ramps at Highways 85-87 intersection. Work is now underway.
- 3.** Repairing areas that are prone to sinking. Work to begin later this year.

MORE INFORMATION: click on www.route87.org or call the 87 hotline at (408) 232-0229

Sources: Caltrans; City of San Jose; reporting by Gary Richards

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